



Libby - press

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**Fw: Emailing: EPA Makes changes to its Libby site team_Western Newspaper
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Carol Campbell to: Penney Trujillo**

12/08/2010 09:59 AM

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----- Forwarded by Carol Campbell/R8/USEPA/US on 12/06/2010 07:06 PM -----

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EPA makes changes to its Libby site team

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The Western News |

Environmental Protection Agency officials announced this week changes to the site team that oversees the day-to-day work of the Libby Superfund site.

Victor Ketellapper, EPA's Libby team leader, said that Ted Linnert, who had served as the site's community involvement coordinator for six years, is retiring from the EPA after a decade of federal service.

Linnert recently transitioned his duties to Libby Faulk, who has worked on the site team during most of this year's construction season.

Nicole Bein, the remedial project manager assigned to Operable Unit 4 – which covers the City of Libby – and who managed critical sampling events over the past year, recently secured another position in EPA's regional office in Denver.

Ketellapper said the EPA is currently in the process of selecting a remedial project manager to fill that vacancy.

Bonnie Lavelle, remedial project manager for OU3 – which covers the former vermiculite mine – will be transitioning to oversee other Superfund work within the EPA's regional office. Lavelle guided the initial phases of the remedial investigation/feasibility study at OU3 for the past three years.

Ketellapper said Rebecca Thomas and Christina Progett will assume responsibility for the work on that vermiculite mine unit.

"EPA will ensure that these routine personnel changes are seamless and that we continue to make progress in achieving site cleanup goals," Ketellapper said through a press release. "I'm looking forward to the experience the new members will bring to the team."

The number of positions and individual roles on Superfund site teams vary according to the needs of the site, he added. In addition to the team leader, the Libby asbestos site team employs multiple remedial project managers, two toxicologists, an attorney and data management and community relations personnel.

In 2002, the Libby Asbestos Site was added to the Superfund National Priorities List, and the EPA sampled and inspected more than 3,000 properties. By October of this year, the

EPA had completed response actions at more than 1,400 residential and commercial properties, and had initiated significant toxicity studies to support completion of the Site-Wide Risk Assessment.

Investigations and response actions are ongoing in the neighboring town of Troy, the mine, various former vermiculite processing areas, the railroad rights of way and state highways.

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